

CHEVERELL MAGNA PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF CHEVERELL MAGNA PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON MONDAY 3 APRIL 2017 AT
THE PAVILION, WITCHCOMBE CLOSE, GREAT CHEVERELL

Minute No.	Item	Action
57/17	Councillors in Attendance: Cllrs. S. Davies (Chair), R. Hayward (Vice Chair), A. Lumb, H. Simons, T. Alexander, A. Alexander R. Gamble (Wiltshire Council)	
58/17	Public in Attendance: 1	
59/17	Apologies for Absence: Cllr. S. Pearce	
60/17	Open Forum: Council received a presentation from Mr. Darren Chillery-Watson of Hill Corner, requesting that a swing suitable for a disabled child be placed in the 'soft' area of the playground. Council were <i>supportive</i> of this request, which would be considered alongside other intended improvements to the playground.	
61/17	Disclosures of Interest: None declared	
62/17	Minutes of the Meeting held on 13 March 2017: <i>Agreed</i> unanimously without amendment. Signed off by the Chair for Public Display.	Clerk
63/17	Actions from previous meetings a) 44/17(b) (<i>Village Facebook page</i>): Cllr. T. Alexander reported that this had now been set up, and people were being invited to sign up. The Clerk commented that this would be useful for notifying residents about important Council information and forthcoming meetings; b) 45/17(b) (<i>Roadworks on the C40</i>): this is still being pursued by Cllr. Gamble (<i>see Minute 64/17(b) below</i>); c) 47/17(b) (<i>Village Clean-up Day</i>): this had been advertised in <i>News & Views</i> , and signs would be put on the Notice Boards and at the Shop. Cllr. A. Alexander was obtaining equipment from the Army.	Cllr. Gamble Cllr. A. Alexander

64/17	<p>Report by Cllr. R. Gamble, Wiltshire Council:</p> <p>a) Victoria Park – the meeting between Claire Perry MP and the Ministry of Justice is most likely to be during April;</p> <p>b) Local Road Works – officer responsibility within Wiltshire Council for works on the C40 is <i>still</i> being determined. The Council again noted with concern the barriers on the C40 bend, which are a traffic hazard. The A360 between Tilshead and Shrewton will be closed on weekdays between 10 and 21 April, when there is also likely to be tree maintenance work in West Lavington.</p>	
65/17	<p>Wiltshire Police: No report received.</p>	
66/17	<p>Clerk’s Report: Annual Parish Meeting – this had been notified in <i>News & Views</i>, and therefore a ‘leaflet drop’ was not considered necessary. A suitable number of copies of the Agenda, the Minutes of the 2016 meeting, the draft 2016/17 Accounts, and reports from village groups would be printed for attendees. Councillors agreed to bring suitable finger food, and drinks would be ordered from the Shop.</p>	Clerk
67/17	<p>Finance:</p> <p>a) Banking arrangements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council noted the current cashbook balances; • Payments were agreed for the Clerk’s salary, Cllr. Simons’ expenses for attending a training course (£20.25), the cost of a training course attended by the Clerk (£15 + VAT), Chair’s Expenses (£44.05 + VAT) and hedge trimming in Bartletts (£200). <p>b) Internal Control:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council noted the final projected outturn for 2016/17, showing an underspend of approximately £430.86; • Council noted the timetable for completion of the 2016/17 Accounts and supporting Governance Statements. <p>c) 2015/16 Accounts: External Audit comments: Council noted an interim report from the External Auditors (Grant Thornton), which was received on 31/3/2017. This highlighted a number of reporting errors in the 2015/16 Accounts, which Council was now aware of and which were solely due to the former Clerk (who resigned on 31/8/2016), although Council acknowledged their weakness in accepting assurances without sufficient scrutiny at the time.</p>	

<p>67/17 (contd.)</p>	<p>While accepting, with regret, the comments of the External Auditor, Council strongly felt that the criticisms were unfair, added no value and, in particular, did not reflect the work that has been undertaken to improve the control environment following the appointment of the new Clerk on 1/11/2016. Council also strongly felt that, despite requests, they had received poor support from the Wiltshire Association of Local Councils (WALC) with regard to maintaining the Council's financial records, although employment advice had been forthcoming.</p> <p>The Clerk was asked to draft an appropriate response to the External Auditor which, once approved by Council, would be placed on the Council's website (alongside the External Audit Report) as a matter of Public Record.</p> <p>The Clerk was also asked to draft a suitable letter to WALC, expressing the Council's concern over the level of support available to Parish Councillors who face difficult issues of management, especially financial, should the Clerk fall ill or be performing poorly, recognising that few Parish Councillors have any experience in such issues.</p> <p>The Chair received a resounding Vote of Confidence from Council for her management of a very difficult situation.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
<p>68/17</p>	<p>Traffic issues:</p> <p>a) Junction of C40 / B3098 at Pear Tree Lane – this issue would be considered by CATG at its May meeting. The Clerk informed Council that he wished to attend, but in a personal capacity, which Council did not object to;</p> <p>b) Zebra Crossing outside Holy Trinity School – no response has been received from the Head Teacher or School Governors, so Council agreed to take no further action;</p> <p>c) Speed Indication Devices (SID's) – comments from the Erlestoke organiser are still awaited;</p> <p>d) HGV's – Cllr. Philip Whitehead (Wiltshire Council) was in discussion with Wiltshire Highways Officers about the FAPM procedure. Council supported this approach.</p>	
<p>69/17</p>	<p>Planning: No planning applications notified by Wiltshire Council.</p>	
<p>70/17</p>	<p>Parish Steward: No significant issues to report.</p>	
<p>71/17</p>	<p>Litter Campaign: Council thanked Mrs. Annemarie Seager for her offer to print suitable anti-litter signs free of charge. The style of signs was discussed and agreed. The signs would be placed, and periodically moved, by Cllr. Hayward.</p>	<p>Cllr. Hayward</p>

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72/17	<p>Victoria Park Residents Association (VPRA): No report or apologies received. However, Council <i>noted</i> recent correspondence between Claire Perry MP and the Ministry of Justice (MoJ), which may result in essential road repairs being undertaken. Council <i>reaffirmed</i> its support for the residents of Victoria Park, and again expressed its concern over the lack of input from VPRA.</p>	
73/17	<p>Pavilion issues: No significant issues to report.</p>	
74/17	<p>Playground: a) the March inspection had been undertaken by Cllr. Simons, who also circulated her notes from the RoSPA training course on 28/2 2017 which contain suggestions for control improvements; b) the Clerk reported that quotes for a more durable solution for re-covering the zipslide launch ramp had been sought and were awaited. Cllr. Hayward <i>agreed</i> to remove the trip hazard from the rucked-up surface in the short term.</p>	<p>Cllr. Simons Clerk Cllr. Hayward</p>
75/17	<p>Emergency Plan: This was still under review, with the addition of a grant scheme from SSE re. Flood prevention, and the SSE Winter Readiness programme would be discussed with the Church. The offer of First Aid training would be expanded outside the village to attract viable numbers.</p>	<p>Cllr. A. Alexander Cllr. T. Alexander</p>
76/17	<p>Tribute to Cllr. Ann Lumb: Council <i>noted</i> that this would be Cllr. Lumb's last meeting, as she would not be seeking re-election in May. Council <i>recognised</i> her service to the Parish since 2009, in particular her work on traffic control which resulted in the 20mph limit. Council presented her with a suitable token of their appreciation and esteem.</p>	
	<p>The meeting closed at 9.30pm.</p>	

NEXT MEETINGS:

Monday 8 May 2017 (AGM), 7.30pm
Monday 5 June 2017, 7.30pm
Monday 3 July 2017, 7.30pm
All at The Pavilion, Witchcombe Close

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE SEE THE COUNCIL'S WEBSITE AT
WWW.GREATCHEVERELL.ORG**